

Anaheim Elementary Education

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The vision for AEEA is to build strength through unity, growth in leadership, and increased participation by providing service, support, and advocacy for members' rights. *AEEA Executive Board, July 28, 2008*

A Month to Celebrate

May is a month to celebrate many aspects of education from **Day of the School Nurse** to **Day of the Teacher** to our "**WAMI**" celebration for retirees. May 14th marks the 32nd annual California Day of the teacher: California Teachers: *Inspiring our students, strengthening our communities*. CTA President, Dean Vogel, shared the information that California's Day of the Teacher has its roots in the community and is patterned after the celebration of the traditional "El Dia del Maestro," which is observed in Mexico and Latin American countries. California's Day of the Teacher arose out of legislation co-sponsored by CTA and the Association of Mexican American Educators in 1982. Thank you to all for your work and contributions to students and public education. Enjoy your celebrations!!!

WHO AWARDS – WE HONOR OURS

On Wednesday, May 7, 2014 the following AEEA members will be honored at the Orange Service Center/CTA **WHO Awards Banquet** at the Turnip Rose in Newport Beach: Amy Asaoka-Nakakihara (Gauer); Gina Baber (Lincoln); Faith Daverin (Madison); Judy Fogerty (Franklin); Marta Foster (Ponderosa); Brian Locke (Guinn); Linda Schwenn (Gauer); Judy Shumway (Edison); Virginia Tibbetts (Gauer). These AEEA members are being awarded for their service to our association and the reasons for recognition range from Elections or Calendar Committee work, bringing teacher-driven change to their site with the help of awarded grant monies, and/or work as a site rep, grievance representative and/or bargaining team member. AEEA leadership appreciates all the work and contributions of these dedicated members.

Congratulations to all!

Political Action

Our joint Anaheim Educators Political Action Committee (AE PAC) is gearing up for November 2014 elections. The committee is comprised of members from both AEEA and ASTA (Anaheim Secondary Teachers Association). The committee has met twice already this Spring and will have held another two meetings by May 5th. The AE PAC's first priority is the endorsement process for upcoming school board elections in both ACSD and AUHSD. It is important that our endorsed candidates are elected to office if we want to continue to improve the quality of education, employment, benefits, wages, and climate we currently have in ACSD. Stay tuned for more info!

2014 CTA Good Teaching Conference

Deanna Torchia, Sunkist

The CTA Good Teaching Conference (South) was held on March 14th – 16th at the Hilton in Anaheim. The conference offered over 80 workshops on a variety of topics. Some of the topics were classroom management, common core standards, retirement planning, fluency, yoga for teachers and students, RtI, and how to handle stress. There were five sessions each one hour and fifteen minutes in length. The president and vice-president of CTA both served as keynote speakers. The exhibit hall had many vendors that stayed open throughout the day. On Saturday afternoon the caucuses were held, mini groups within CTA. All attendees were welcome to join. On Sunday, CTA gave away some fun raffle prizes and so did many of the vendors.

One of my favorite things about the conference was the bonus session that they offered at 8am on Saturday. The presenter was Tammy Duggan, author of *The Uncluttered Teacher*. The title of her session was “How Common Core Can Make You Clutter Free.” She talked about how Common Core gives us the opportunity to really think about what we are teaching, and what materials aren’t necessary anymore. Tammy explained her system for getting rid of clutter, organizing, sorting, and really deciding if you are going to use something again. It was very interesting to me because I am always throwing things away, but later wondering if I’d made a mistake. Tammy gave me the reassurance I needed to keep doing what I’m doing – tossing the stuff I haven’t used recently.

Tammy also urged educators retiring to clean out their classrooms themselves and not assume that everything is useful. The new teacher is going to be overwhelmed enough as it is without having to clean out someone else’s junk. Tammy suggested leaving a corner, cabinet, or area to house the items that the new teacher may need or find useful. I have cleaned out my fair share of classrooms, and this would have really been a time saver.

Another favorite of mine was going to see Rick Morris present. His Simple Solutions workshops covered effective discipline, classroom management, student engagement, right brain strategies, and Sound Project 2014. The Sound Project 2014 session was all about integrating music into the common core culture of your classroom.

2014 CTA Good Teaching Conference

Laura Emerson, Orange Grove

First, I would like to thank AEEA for offering to pay for registration to attend this conference. With all of the changes that are coming our way in education, I found the workshops and seminars offered very timely and relevant. I thought it unfortunate that I did not see any other ACSD colleagues in attendance, especially since it was right here in Anaheim, and with the generous offer of reimbursement by our association. Of course it is possible that there were teachers and I did not cross paths with them.

I started the conference by attending the CTA Institute for Teaching workshop on Strength-based Reform. This CTA program offers scholarships for teachers who are interested in using their innovation toward student success, that meet certain criteria based on seven factors that relate to a seven factor Strength-based matrix. I enjoyed listening to three recipients of this scholarship, as all were very different and were having a profound impact on student learning, and building a culture of success at their respective schools. I mainly wanted to hear what the group

had to say about Strength-based Reform, because I believe that the upcoming implementation of Common Core can, and should be centered on our students, and input from teachers be the driving force behind the decisions that are made during this process. Strength-based thinking discovers the possible by emphasizing what is working right now. By focusing on strengths, or what is working in our schools, we will have an opportunity to show that teacher driven change is critical to school improvement. Rather than focusing on deficit models (as we have in the past), Strength-based Approaches and use of “Appreciative Inquiry” have been found to produce positive results for students. Check out www.teacherdrivenchange.org for more information on this topic.

The remainder of the 12 hours of workshops I attended all centered on Common Core, and the assessment(s) we will use to measure our success. I walked away with many new perspectives on how to teach and assess these standards, and am very happy that I was able to collaborate and network with teachers and administrators from all over California who are implementing this initiative in different ways. There is always more than one way to take on new challenges, and it is good for professionals to have a well-rounded view. As a patient, I would like to think that my doctor reads more than one medical journal, attends professional development about all the latest and greatest in their field of specialty, and exposes him/herself to many different ways to diagnose and treat conditions. I hope that my lawyer, and tax accountant also is current on all changes in law, and knows all of the ways to benefit my situation. Why should we be any different in our profession?

After more than a dozen years of No Child Left Behind, I hope we can accept the positives that came from it, and learn from the many aspects of it that sent our profession backward. I look forward to going back to teaching children rather than scripted programs. I look forward to (hopefully) more realistic goals for testing, and easing up on the high-stakes measures of the past. All students proficient will be proficient by 2014. Realistic? Really? Our students are not one-dimensional, nor will they ever be. We need to look at where a student starts, and how far they came over the year. This requires that we look at multiple measures, both quantitative and qualitative. Let’s hope that our politicians and leaders will listen to the voice of educators in this next age of reform and testing. I look forward to teachers having the respect and trust in their classrooms to meet the needs of their students using their individual strengths and talents. Robotic, scripted teaching did not work, and many of us knew it wouldn’t all along. When teachers know their students intimately, use their own individual strengths and talents, along with a multitude of strategies that meet their students where they are at to bring them forward, the magic happens. It does not happen by requiring that teachers be on the same lesson, and use the same instructional strategies to accomplish the goal. I hope that teachers will be given the professional courtesy to use their strengths, and various strategies to meet the needs of their students and be trusted doing so. Let’s bring the rigor into our instruction the Common Core demands, and use our creativity and innovation to take on this new age of reform. Let’s not be quiet during the process, either. We need to share what is working, as well as what isn’t. We will need to spend our money wisely, in ways that benefit our classrooms best. Teachers need to be involved with this process, and let their voices be heard. Let’s implement the Common Core using common sense!



2014-2015 Calendar Ratification Results

Yes = 414 ~ No = 76

507 signatures on rosters, 490 legal ballots, 15 invalid ballots
3 sites did not submit voted election materials on time

2014-2016 Executive Board Election Results

476 signatures on rosters, 472 legal ballots, 0 invalid ballots
3 sites did not submit voted election materials on time

Secretary: *various write-in candidates* – Faith Daverin elected with 132 votes

Treasurer: Dennis Haessly elected with 457 votes

Two (2) Area Directors: Melanie Farrow elected with 399 votes
Judy Fogerty elected with 411 votes

State Council Delegate: Debbie Resnick elected 468 votes

Alternate State Council Delegate: *no one elected - no write-in received a majority of write-in ballots*

Wear Your AEEA T-Shirt



May 2:
Support Our Negotiations Team

May 20:
Support Our Negotiations Team

Some shirts are still in stock.
Contact Kristen for new orders.

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 25-27	CTA Region IV Conference
April 28	AEEA Rep Council @ 4:00
	Study Session 4:30-5:15
	ACSD School Board @ 6:00
May 1	Anaheim Educators Board Mtg.
May 2	Negotiations – AEEA Shirts
May 7	Day of the School Nurse
May 12	ACSD School Board @ 6:00
May 14	Day of the Teacher
May 20	Negotiations – AEEA Shirts

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO

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AEEA is an affiliate of CTA and the National Education Association (NEA).